

# Discussion on the Creativity of Decorative Painting

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**Abstract**—As a unique art form, decorative painting is closely related to people's life. Its unique expression method is thriving in the national art soil. Nowadays, people's living standards are constantly improving, decorative patterns are becoming more and more abundant, and the style also pursues individuation and modernization. With the development of the times and the prosperity of the economy, the return of the modern human nature is more for the richer and more comfortable living conditions of the human beings, and the humanized concern for the masses.

**Keywords**—Decorative painting, Decorative art, Display space

## I. INTRODUCTION

Roujian Shen said it well: "Every painting has its own characteristics. We emphasize the characteristics in order to better understand and master the regularity of it, and to give full play to its special effects." Indeed, any kind of painting has its own characteristics, and decorative painting is a both modern and traditional form of art. The production and development of the decorative painting in China have experienced the renewal of the past dynasties and the alternation of the old and the new. From painted potteries in ancient times, to bronze wares of Shang and Zhou Dynasties, to lacquerwares in Spring and Autumn and Warring States Period, to brick carvings of Han dynasty, to Dunhuang frescoes from Wei and Jin Dynasties to the Tang and Song Dynasties, to folk wood engraving new-year paintings of Ming and Qing Dynasties.....for thousands of years, the unique artistic tradition of China's decorative painting has been formed. Decorative painting is born out of decorative art. It can attract more and more attention because of its unique aesthetic value and aesthetic charm, namely, the ontology language of decorative painting. The language of decorative painting includes the vocabulary of "seeking change", that is to seek the component elements of "change", the "grammar" of seeking beauty, that is the law pursuing the formal beauty, and the "sentence structure" of seeking synthesis, that is the comprehensive and changeable expression method. The organic combination of the three coruscates the unique charm of decorative painting.<sup>[1-3]</sup>

## II. THE CONCEPT OF DECORATIVE PAINTING

The decoration can be simply understood as beautiful decoration, beautification, and added decoration. From a deeper level, it is a kind of ornamental creative activity which is carried out by human beings in pursuit of aesthetics and presenting their spiritual needs. In the broad sense, decoration refers to decorative phenomena and decorative behavior. In the narrow sense, decoration refers to specific decorations, patterns, decorative categories. As an aesthetic and creative act of decoration, decorative painting has a rich and vivid expression in human decoration activities.<sup>[4-6]</sup>

## III. CONCEPTION OF DECORATIVE PAINTING CREATIVITY

There are two main aspects in the conception of decorative painting creativity.

### A. Conception of Natural Landscape Reconstruction.

The form of selection, refinement, trade-off and induction based on the characteristics of natural scenery is represented by the realistic objects, which is intuitive and easy to be accepted. However, it is not the natural imitation and replication, it is a higher level of performance. This form of expression has a strong appeal.

### B. Creation Conception of Subjective Idea

The creation conception of subjective idea is the thought based on the conception of natural scene reconstruction. It breaks through the limitations of natural scene form and reorganizes, decomposes and makes up the natural scene form. It draws out the most typical features of the natural scene, and transforms it into a form with intrinsic meaning by means of subjective setting, variation and deformation.

## IV. THE EXPRESSIVE FORM OF DECORATIVE PAINTING CREATIVITY

The form of creativity is also the way the decorative theme strengthens the ornament of the object. There are three common forms: direct expression, indirect expression and symbolic meaning expression.

### *A. Direct Expression*

The direct expression pays attention to the beauty of natural objects, and strengthens the characteristics of the objective objects through a certain art processing, such as the white wall and black tile of Jiangnan Watertown, the simple and honest of camel, and the freshness and beauty of the lotus. By grasping these existing features to trigger the associative strength, the recreated image has both the characteristics of the original object and the object itself.

### *B. Indirect Expression*

The indirect expression doesn't directly describe the actual object, but refract the true theme by expressing the subjects associated with the theme. Indirect performance has a certain space of imagination, giving the appreciators a certain space of imagination, for example, the theme of the painting is the "mountain temple", however, there is not temple but the monk drawing water in the painting, which indirectly expresses that there is the temple in the mountains. For another example, the theme is that "the horseshoe is scented after the return of the spring outing". The painter doesn't draw a horse treading on the flower, but a butterfly flying around the horseshoe, in order to show the fragrance of the horseshoe, which has a kind of implicit beauty.

### *C. Symbolic Meaning Expression*

The symbolic meaning expression is a common technique of expression of decorative painting, for example, in decorative paintings, the lotus is often used to show the purity, the seedpod of the lotus is used to represent the desire of "the more sons, the more blessings", the peony is used to symbolize riches and honour, the dove symbolizes peace, and the Statue of Liberty symbolizes freedom and peace. The general symbolic theme is revealed in the metaphorical language. The sense of symbolic meaning in decorative painting is a symbolic idea formed under traditional ideas. The creation of decorative painting is borrowed from this symbolic language to express the author's idea.

## V. THE SPACE FOR DECORATIVE PAINTING CREATIVITY

The language of decorative painting determines that its expression space is very wide, which can be said to be a space art. From the surface of decorative painting, it seems to shorten space distance of nature. However, from the expression connotation, it is a continuation of space. The shortening and continuation of this space is not the reappearance of natural space, but the result of the extension of the height set of the natural space.

### *A. Hint Space*

It uses the hint or cue point under the decorative image to express the natural space, so that the appreciators can produce association of time and space. It is different from the imaginary space. The imagination space is the spatial composition of the thinking of the image. Compared with the imaginary space, it is visible. This visibility is not dependent on the natural space itself, but the psychological suggestion produced by the connection between images.

### *B. Displace Space*

It unfolds the beauty of the internal structure of nature to be appreciated. It is intended to shorten the association of another natural form produced by a state of nature. Through an object, two spatial levels are reflected, this space is similar to the film Montage techniques. For example, when we are painting the decorative paintings on the theme of Dunhuang exterior, in order to let the appreciators produce the association of the interior space of Dunhuang, we will unfold the Dunhuang Grottoes to make a whole picture of the interior mural and the exterior, which shows the artistic charm of the Dunhuang Grottoes more deeply. The display space is not the representation of the natural space, but the nature of the natural space.

## VI. SUMMARY

The creativity of decorative painting comes from the rich imagination of the artist. Creativity is to express the old content in a new form. That is, the author finds a new form of expression, a new image and a new idea from the common performance content subject matter. This idea lies in the artist's spiritual insight and insightful observation, capture, memory and accumulation, which surprises the author in the revelation of beauty.

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